

Perspectives in Military History

49th Annual Lecture Series

The Leadership of African American Generals

Dr. Jimmie Jones

Author

Since the Vietnam War, the U.S. Army has seen numerous African American Generals rise through the ranks and take the fore in leading our fighting men and women. The U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center is proud to present a lecture from Dr. Jimmie Jones, former U.S. Army officer and author of the new book, *Shock and Awe: An Introduction to African American Army Generals (1968-1992)*, as part of the Perspectives in Military History Lecture Series. The lecture, studded with names such as Major General Frederic E. Davison, General Roscoe Robinson Jr., and General Colin L. Powell, will include a detailed discussion of prominent contributions African American general officers have made to the Army. These officers forged the way towards a truly professional fighting force by combining unmatched leadership with a steady progression of race equality and equal rights in the Post-Vietnam War Army.

The officers Dr. Jones will discuss developed their leadership styles in the 1960's and 70's when turbulent and violent racial tensions in the United States were a very real threat to the stability of the U.S. Army. These officers' leadership practices demonstrated their resolve to accomplish their mission, while simultaneously advancing racial equality in the service. Failure was never an option; these Soldiers steadfastly believed they had to be the best in order to be considered successful.

Dr. Jimmie Jones is a retired U.S. Army colonel and author of the recently published book *Shock and Awe: An Introduction to African American Army Generals (1968-1992)*. His 26 years as an Air Defense Artillery officer led to his command of an Air Defense Artillery Patriot Missile Battalion, after which he continued his career as an assignment and professional development officer in the Army Military Personnel Center. Dr. Jones was the Personnel Director for the Army National Guard, followed by a career in education, including positions as a college professor and a school principal. Dr. Jones earned the NCAACP's Wilkins Meritorious Service Award in 2003, after which the City of Las Vegas proclaimed April 6, 2006 be recognized as "Dr. Jimmie Jones Day." Dr. Jones earned degrees from several institutions, which include a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics, Master's degree in Counseling, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership.

DATE: Wednesday, July 20, 2016

TIME: Doors open at 6:30 PM and the talk begins at 7:15 PM

PLACE: USAHEC, Visitor and Education Center, Multi-Purpose Room

For updates and any last-minute changes in "Perspectives" meeting times and places, please check the USAHEC homepage: www.USAHEC.org or call the Information Desk: (717) 245-3972.